

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 01774 141919Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----105729 141945Z /41
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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6765

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 1774

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EXDIS

FOR ARA, L AND D ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN, CI
SUBJECT: LETELIER/MOFFITT ASSASSINATION INVESTIGATION

1. ON MARCH 13 LAWYER ETCHEBERRY INFORMED US THAT
EMBASSY NOTE NO. 20 APPOINTING HIM USG COUNCIL FOR
SUBJECT INVESTIGATION (SANTIAGO 1671) HAD IN FACT
BEEN FORWARDED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY TO THE SUPREME
COURT AND THAT THE SUPREME COURT HAD SENT IT ON TO
FIRST CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE JUANA GONZALEZ.

2. ETCHEBERRY HAD HIS FIRST MEETING WITH JUDGE
GONZALEZ AT 5 P.M. MARCH 13. ETCHEBERRY'S IMPRESSION,
AFTER A 25 MINUTE TALK, IS THAT GONZALEZ IS WILLING TO
DO WHATEVER WE THINK NECESSARY AND THAT SHE WOULD FIND
IT HELPFUL TO HAVE SPECIFIC PETITIONS FROM ETCHEBERRY --
IF ONLY TO PROTECT HERSELF FROM INTERNAL CRITICS.
GONZALEZ HAD NOT YET RECEIVED A REPLY TO HER FORMAL
INQUIRY OF MARCH 7 TO THE DEFENSE MINISTRY SEEKING
INFORMATION ON WILLIAMS AND ROMERAL -- A LINE OF
INQUIRY NOT LIKELY TO PRODUCE ANYTHING (AS GONZALEZ
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SHOULD HAVE KNOWN). IN ORDER TO MOVE QUICKLY BEYOND
THAT DEAD END, ETCHEBERRY PLANS TO DELIVER TODAY,
MARCH 14, TO GONZALEZ A REQUEST THAT SHE QUERY THE
FOREIGN MINISTRY REGARDING THE IDENTITIES OF THE TWO
PERSONS WHO RECEIVED OFFICIAL PASSPORTS USING THE
WILLIAMS AND ROMERAL NAMES IN AUGUST, 1976.

3. IN ORDER TO PRESENT OTHER REQUESTS TO GONZALEZ, ETCHEBERRY HAS REACHED CONCLUSION THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR HIM TO MEET SOON WITH NG ASSISTANT ATTORNEY PROPPER EITHER HERE OR IN WASHINGTON. FOLLOWING TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH STEVEN AND PROPPER IT WAS DECIDED TO DEFER DECISION ON POSSIBLE TRAVEL OF ETCHEBERRY TO WASHINGTON UNTIL FRIDAY, MARCH 17.

4. ETCHEBERRY PLANS TO MEET INFORMALLY WITH MIGUEL SCHWEITZER, JR. IN NEXT FEW DAYS. HE AND SCHWEITZER ARE CLOSE PERSONAL FRIENDS; OSTENSIBLE PURPOSE OF MEETING WOULD BE TO DISCUSS WITH SCHWEITZER WHAT WENT ON IN WASHINGTON.

5. ETCHEBERRY BELIEVES IT DESIRABLE TO KEEP LOCAL PRESS ON OUR SIDE AND HE PLANS TO BE AS FORTHCOMING IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE.
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